

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/630,517

Examiner

Katarzyna Wyrozewski Lee

Applicant(s)

BERNARD ET AL.

Art Unit

1714

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Interview of 10/9/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13, 15-18.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02 August 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. <u>1003</u> |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____ | 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Dennis Carmen on October 9, 2003.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 19-70.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In view of properly filed Terminal Disclaimer on 7/13/2003 obviousness type double patenting rejection over what is now US Patent 6,610,772 to CLAUDBERG et al. is hereby overcome.

The prior art of SCHMIDT (WO 99/38914) in view of MAXFIELD (US 5,385,776) prior art of SCHMIDT disclosed oxygen-scavenging system in polyamide, which composition was utilized in formation of packaging product. The prior art of MAXFIELD disclosed polyamide nanocomposite composition. The rejection was overcome by an amendment and affidavit under rule 131 or 132, which affidavit disclosed that the present invention has been reduced to practice before August 5 1999, which is a publication date of the prior art of SCHMIDT.

During updated search, the examiner found prior art US 6,391,449 to LAN et al, with priority date of December 7, 1998. The prior art of LAN discloses polyamide nanocomposite comprising up to 25 wt % of silicate with additives such as oxygen scavengers, antioxidant and photoinitiator. The prior art of LAN does not specifically list any oxygen scavenging system. It is examiner's position that the list of the scavenging system in the present claim 1 is not obvious over mere recitation of oxygen scavenger. Since claims 30-70 have been canceled the rejection has not been applied.

Applicant's request for rejoinder of article claims 19-29 is also denied for following reason. The allowable subject matter of claim 1 of the present invention is composition

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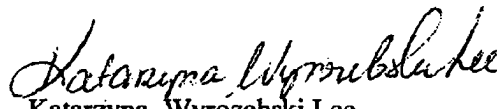
comprising at least one polyamide, oxygen scavenging system as defined in claim 1 and silicate all in one. The article claim separates the composition into layers wherein one layer contains at least one polyamide and silicate and the second layer contains polymer and oxygen scavenging system. None of the layers of the article comprise all the components of the composition.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Katarzyna Wyrozebski Lee whose telephone number is (703) 306-5875. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 6:30 AM-4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan can be reached on (703) 306-2777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.


Katarzyna Wyrozebski Lee
Primary Examiner
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October 10, 2003